
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MODELING TASK FORCE
September 24, 2014

MINUTES

**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE
MODELING TASK FORCE.**

The Modeling Task Force held its meeting at SCAG's Main Office in Los Angeles on September 24, 2014.

Members Present:

Robert Farley (Chair)	Metro
Brian Smolke	OCTA
Chao Wei	Caltrans
Ed Humenik	Caltrans
Eric Bierce	Cambridge Systematics
Fatemeh Ranaiefar	Fehr and Peers
Firooz Hamedani	Caltrans – Dist. 12
Gina Escalante	Iteris
Jinghua Xu	Fehr & Peers
Jielin Sun	Parsons Brinckerhoff
John Kulpa	RS & H
Paul Burke	Metro
Rajat Parashar	Iteris
Rye Baerg	Safe Routes to Schools
Sean McAtee	Cambridge Systematics
Vamshi Akkinipally	AECOM

SCAG Staff Present:

Cheryl Leising (via web-conference)	Hao Cheng
Mike Ainsworth	Rajeev Seetharam
Jingjing Zang	Yang Wang
Petr Malina	Bayarmaa Aleksandr
Sungsu Yoon	

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Robert Farley (Chair), called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM, and introductions were made.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval Items

The May 28, 2014 meeting minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Updates on Subregional Modeling Programs

Commissions and Caltrans provided the group updates on their modeling programs. MTA is continuing the development and calibration of their new Bike Model. OCTA is continuing the calibration of their new TransCAD based Model. Caltrans District 7 is conducting IGR reviews on major projects. Caltrans asked if local models were vetted for consistency. The group discussed model consistency for project level analysis.

4.2 Modeling and Forecasting Programs

Guoxiong Huang (SCAG) presented to the group SCAG's modeling program, current modeling priorities and future direction of the program. Discussed were the Integrated Modeling & Forecasting framework, Scenario Planning Model, Transportation Models, and the EMFAC Model. A copy of the presentation may be obtained from SCAG's Web Site at:
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/DataAndTools/Pages/ModelingTaskForce.aspx>

4.3 Active Transportation Bicycle Database Clearinghouse (Regional Bike Count Program)

Alan Thompson (SCAG) provided an overview of SCAG's Regional Bike Count Program. The program's goal is to develop a standard methodology for collecting and documenting bicycle and pedestrian activity, develop a more accurate estimate of current state of bicycling and bicycle-to-transit access, and to develop a data base for local and regional planners to better measure and report bicycle and pedestrian activity. Alan discussed various methods for gathering counts and types of automated counters. A copy of the presentation may be obtained from SCAG's Web Site at: <http://www.scag.ca.gov/DataAndTools/Pages/ModelingTaskForce.aspx>

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4.4 SCAG's Warehouse Model

Sean McAtee (Cambridge Systematics) presented a description of SCAG's new Warehouse Model. The new Model is integrated into SCAG's Heavy Duty Truck Model. The new Warehouse Model incorporates additional employment categories including: transportation related, general warehousing, and high-cube warehousing. A copy of the presentation may be obtained from SCAG's Web Site at:

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4.5 Auto Operating Costs

Yongping Zhang (SCAG) presented SCAG's Auto Operating Costs, which will be used in the upcoming 2016 RTP/SCS modeling analysis. Auto operating cost (AOC) is a key parameter in the calculation of the marginal utility cost function used in mode choice. AOC is defined as an out-of-pocket expense consisting of fuel cost and other costs (repairs, maintenance, tires and accessories). AOC does not include other costs such as insurance or depreciation of the automobile. Discussed were key model inputs including: gas prices, sales volumes, fuel efficiency data, and estimation and non-fuel related operating costs. A copy of the presentation may be obtained from SCAG's Web Site at:

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5.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report.

6.0 STAFF REPORT/INFORMATION SHARING

There was no Staff Report.

7.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

If there are any future agenda items to report, please speak to Mike Ainsworth.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm. The November Modeling Task Force meeting is typically dark due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The next meeting of the Modeling Task Force will be held on January 28, 2015 at the SCAG offices in downtown Los Angeles at 10:00 am.